JANUARY 25, 2002 - FEBRUARY 7, 2002

"the little paper"

VOLUME 15 NUMBER 13

Timely Tidbits ...

Dinner Will Benefit Local Cancer Victim

A benefit dinner for Stephanie Stafford – a Romulus woman who was diagnosed with a rare form of bone cancer last October, and who is currently undergoing extensive chemotherapy that keeps her hospitalized a majority of the time – is being organized to help her family in their time of hardship. The event will be held at United Auto Workers Local 735 (located on Michigan Avenue in Canton) on Saturday, March 2, from 5 to 9 p.m.

Dinner tickets (\$15 each) will be available beginning Monday, February 4; raffle tickets (\$5 each; need not be present to win) will also be sold.

200

For information, or to purchase tickets, please call Collette Legel at ABX Logistics (734-941-7800).

Still Time To Register For Adult Ed Classes

Romulus/Van Buren Adult Education is still accepting registrations for its GED and high-school-completion classes. Openings also remain in "Medical First Responder," "Intro to Auto Technology," "Advanced Microsoft," and a variety of other beginning and intermediate computer classes.

GED classes began this week; all other classes begin the first week of February.

For further details, please call one of Adult Education's new telephone numbers: 734-532-1958 or 532-1953.

Efforts Continue To Save Health Center

Concerned community members are continuing their efforts to find a way to prevent the closing of the Romulus Adolescent Health Center, which will soon be forced to shut its doors due to state budget cuts.

Director Diane Vidovic urges citizens to write their representatives about the issue, and to seek more information by visiting www.romtown.com or calling the Center at 734-941-1400.

700+ Join In Celebration Of Dr. King's Birthday

More than 700 people – Romulus Community Schools staff and students, City officials, area clergy, and local residents – took part in a "Remember! Celebrate! Act!" program held Monday, January 21, to honor the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The event was a jointly sponsored effort by the school district, the city, and the Romulus Ministerial Association.

Kicking off the program was a "Walk for Warmth" that began at Romulus Middle School at 9 a.m. Of the 300+ who participated in the march, many brought blankets, coats, hats, and gloves to donate to those in need. When the walkers arrived at their destination – Romulus High School – they were treated to a community breakfast courtesy of the Best Western Hotel of Romulus.

Afterward, another 400 area residents joined those already at the school to enjoy a celebratory program held in the auditorium. Featured were welcoming remarks from various officials (Joel R. Carr, Superintendent of Romulus Community Schools; "Master of Ceremonies" Kathy Hurst, Service Learning Coordinator for the district; Randolph Gear, Chairman of the Romulus City Council; and Romulus Police Officer Tom Ellis, spokesman for Mayor Alan Lambert), as well as words of inspiration from Reverend William Kren, pastor of Community United Methodist Church, and Reverend Arthur Willis, pastor of the Pentecostal Baptist Church.

Musical selections were provided by members of the school district's music department and other staff members:

- Ellen Bragg, receptionist at the administrative office, directed the Romulus Community Choir, which performed "Amazing Grace"; the 21st Century/Boys & Girls Club Choir, which sang "Let There Be Peace On Earth"; and four Romulus Elementary students (Carmen Collie, Jewel Johnson, Tiara Moton, and Beatrice Thornton), who performed the special arrangement, "National Anthem Medley";
- Henry James, Director of both the Music Department and the Romulus High School band program, conducted the 80-member RHS Symphony Band in a rendition of "Fantasy On An African American Spiritual (My Lord! What A Morning!)"; and
- Judith Barthwell, Director of the RHS Choir, had her select vocal group, "The Pleasant Sounds," perform "We Fall Down."



Many who attended the program celebrating Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday – such as (from left) Julia, Roger, and Jenessa Deshazor, Jessica O'Bryan, and Felicia Gray – brought donations for the needy. See page 3.

Additional program events included "The Pledge of Allegiance," led by Romulus Boy Scout Troop #872, and an original "Dr. King reading" presented by a group of sixth-graders from Merriman Elementary School.

Among the morning's highlights was a speech by Gladys Howard, who had the opportunity to work with Dr. King when she was only 13 years old. Howard explained how difficult it was to register voters in Jefferson County, Georgia, back in the 1950s, noting that when Dr. King first came to town, only 64 out of 2,419 residents were registered. She talked of various experiences, such as going out into the fields to try to register the workers, and sometimes being harassed by the farm owners in the process.

Howard also related some of her experiences at Louisville Academy high school, where she was the only African American in her class.

"Dr. King would really have liked this gathering, with such a diversified audience and everyone so positive and getting along so well together," she told her listeners. "... We have come a long way."

The day of celebration concluded with a number of afternoon activities, including workshops on "The World of Difference" and "Freedom After 9-1-1" at RHS, and a carpentry session aimed at constructing playhouses for a Habitat for Humanity fund-raiser.

Merriman Elementary also offered district teachers opportunities to work with the "Helping Hand" organization.

Little League Sets Registration Dates

Romulus Little League will accept registrations for its baseball (ages 5 to 18) and softball (ages 7 to 18) programs at the Romulus Recreation Center (located at 36515 Bibbins in downtown Romulus) on the following dates:

- · Friday, February 1, 6-9 p.m.*
- Saturday, February 2, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.*
- · Friday, February 8, 6-9 p.m.
- Saturday, February 9, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Friday, February 22, 6–9 p.m.
- Saturday, February 23, 10 a.m.—2 p.m.
 Parent or guardian must bring the following items to the registration site:

· proof of Romulus residency,

- an original birth certificate (copies will not be accepted), and
- a registration fee of \$35/player or \$50/family.

Note that kids registered on dates with an asterisk will receive \$5 off their registration fee. Note, also, that an additional \$50 per player must be prepaid by those who do not wish to sell the minimum requirement of two boxes of candy per child.

For more information, please call 734-955-6204. □

State Changes MEAP Tests



(From left) Rebecca Hall, Ashley Meinicke, and Tiffany Ramsay worked with magnets at the Romulus Elementary science fair. Romulus High School students such as Ramsay demonstrated various experiments in order to help the younger students prepare for the MEAP science test.

Romulus Community Schools would like to remind parents and students that this year's Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) will be a little different than last year's.

"The State of Michigan has made some changes to the MEAP tests and scheduling," explained district spokesperson Dick Kruse. "One big change involves both the fourth- and eighthgrade math tests. These examinations will have a new 'constructed response' section that will require students to read a paragraph, analyze the information and question presented, and then explain both their answer and the mathematical process that they used to arrive at the answer."

Lynn Behta, Math Coordinator for the district, has indicated that this new format will be much more difficult for students, but that the district has been preparing both teachers and students for this type of examination for more than two years.

"We hope to be well prepared and demonstrate success on these challenging new fourth- and eighth-grade tests this year," Behta stated.

Of the scheduling changes to be implemented this year, one involves the math test, which will be moved from the seventh grade to the eighth grade (there was no seventh-grade test last year). Another involves the writing portion, which has been switched from eighth grade to seventh.

The state has also abbreviated some of the "written response" parts of the reading, social studies, and science tests because of budget concerns, according to Kruse.

"Michigan Department of Treasury officials say it would have been too costly to have the former, longer written passages individually scored," he said.



Wick Elementary School's last science fair had students like (from left) Quinn Nash (fifth grade), Annie Cox (sixth grade), Kaela Williams (third grade), and Sharell Dyes (fifth grade) studying how to sort materials in the recycling process. Parent volunteer Valerie Varessi was happy to help with a project that would help students prepare for the MEAP.



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Sales Representative/Distribution Manager

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MLK Celebration



More than 300 people gathered for a "Walk for Warmth" that kicked off the community's celebration of the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



The Romulus Community Choir, under the direction of Ellen Bragg, performed "Amazing Grace" during a special program held at Romulus High School later that day.



Bragg also conducted the 21st Century Choir (from left: Julian Johnson, Najai Beck, Patricia Williams, Amber Dessenberg, Erin Bragg, Olivia Madison, and Kara Delay) in "Let There Be Peace On Earth."



Other program participants included (from left) Randolph Gear (Council Chairman, City of Romulus), Gladys Howard (featured speaker), Reverend William Kren (pastor, Community United Methodist Church), and Reverend Arthur Willis (pastor, Pentecostal Baptist Church).



Among those who attended the program were (from left) Earl Alexander (Commander, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #1869), Reverend Charlotte Huby (pastor, First Baptist Church of Romulus), and Elmer Copland (past Commander, VFW Post #1869).

New "Medical First Responder" Class is a Huge Hit at RCHS

Romulus Community High School and the Downriver Campus of Wayne County Community College have joined together to offer a new class, called Medical First Responder.

"This class is designed to allow someone to help out in medical emergencies until EMS arrives at the scene," said Michelle Gonyea, instructor for the course. "Students interact in various accident/injury scenarios as they learn about proper procedures for treating victims."

Gonyea went on to explain that students taking Medical First Responder can earn college credit if they earn a grade of 80% or higher. Students can then qualify for the next-level class, which can lead to a state license.

According to Gonyea, the class has received an enthusiastic response from students at Community High. Students such as Courtney Pemberton and James Vanderhoot are enjoying the opportunity to learn skills that may be of real use to them in helping someone in the future.

Community High is an alternative school of choice with students from Romulus and Belleville as well as sev-



MFR students James Vanderhoot and Courtney Pemberton work on "victim" Randy Akers.

eral Downriver communities. Principal Al Wilkerson is pleased with the new collaborative program with WCCC, and hopes that it will attract additional students to the school.

550 Adult Ed Students Attend Legislative Forum in Southgate

More than 550 Adult Education students from southeastern Michigan recently attended a "legislative forum" with lawmakers from Detroit, Romulus, Taylor, Belleville, and a number of Downriver communities. The program - held at the Adult Education facilities in Southgate proved to be a learning experience for both sides

Sharman Spieser, Director of the Romulus Adult Ed program, said that the forum was important because Adult Education has not been funded for the 2002-2003 school year.

"Our students got to tell the legislators how important Adult Education is to them and to their futures," explained

Among those who attended the event were State Representative Raymond Basham (D-Taylor/Romulus) and his Legislative Aide, Hoon-Yung Hopgood. Hopgood has indicated that he will be a candidate for Basham's seat in November, when the term-limited representative will seek a State Senate seat in the new Downriver district that will include Romulus and Taylor.



Hoon-Yung Hopgood (right), Legislative Aide to State Representative Ray Basham, had dinner with Romulus resident and Adult Education student Bobby Begley (left) at a recent Legislative Forum. Hopgood has announced his decision to run for Basham's seat in the Fall 2002 election.

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Ice-carving Team Wins Honors at Plymouth Competition



Jennifer Case proudly displays a harp like the one that earned her fifth place in the competition.

Members of Romulus High School's Culinary Arts ice-carving team captured five of the ten honors awarded in the high-school division at the 20th annual Plymouth Ice-carving Festival. This marked the second consecutive year that Romulus students have earned at least half of the top ten places at this prestigious event.

Culinary arts teacher Chuck Usztics was pleased with his students' efforts ... and results. He was also proud that Romulus students did over 70% of the carving on the Plymouth Ice Festival sign, in conjunction with the Henry Ford Community College ice-carving team.

Earlier in the week, students had practiced carving their competitive presentations. The City of Romulus Department of Public Works was kind enough to transport these practice pieces to various city and school buildings for display.

The students' results follow:

- · fourth place: Crystal Ponder (swan),
- · fifth place: Jennifer Case (harp),
- · seventh place: Roy Wolf (tiger),
- ninth place: Richard Miller (eagle),
- tenth place: Michael Sanders (the Peanuts character Snoopy).
 Congratulations to all.



Culinary arts teacher Charles Usztics (center) congratulates Romulus High School ice-carving team members Michael Sanders and Crystal Ponder, who finished tenth and fourth, respectively.

Healthy Living Advisory Committee's Recommendations Approved by Board

At its regular meeting held January 14, the Romulus Board of Education approved a series of revisions to the district's health curriculum as developed by the Healthy Living Advisory Committee. The move followed a January 10 public hearing at which Committee members discussed their proposed changes

with local residents and addressed parents' questions and concerns.

Michigan law requires a public hearing and action by the Board of Education before making any health curriculum changes concerning reproductive health or HIV. The law also requires the establishment of a governing body in order to develop the local health curriculum for each community. The Romulus Healthy Living Advisory Committee fulfills this obligation, according to Dick Kruse, district spokesperson.

What should parents do if they don't want their child to take part in the reproductive health and HIV curriculum?

"Romulus parents are mailed informational letters several weeks before the health lessons are taught," explained Kruse. "Included is an 'opt-out' form that parents can return to their child's school if they don't want him/her involved in the lessons."

Members of the Committee include teachers, health professionals, parents, students, and local clergy. □

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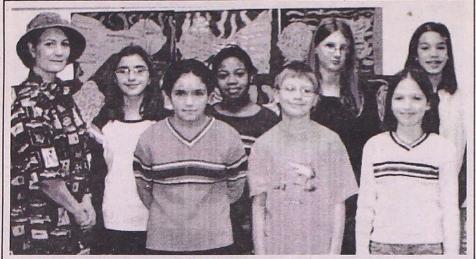
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Barth Students Help Classmates Adopt Fish! Philosophy



Physical-education teacher Sheila Stasak (back, left) helped students at Barth develop skits to teach classmates the district's *Fish!* philosophy. (From left) front – Kelly Mays, Adam Hammond, and Kristen Leigh; back – Miranda Gubaci, Rachel Arthur, Tricia Wanamaker, and Rebecca Lewkowicz.



Stasak's helpers (from left: front – Brittany Rodgers, Jasmine Colquitt, Kanaya Williams, MaryAnn Watts, and David Forbush; back – Samantha Stewart, Stephanie Rutherford, Brittney Heil, Antoinette Newsom, and Ricky Rutherford) showed everyone how to "make someone's day."

INSTRUMENTS WANTED

Metro Charter Academy (located at 34800 Ecorse Rd., Romulus) seeks donations of band instruments, since the school has few of its own. To make a donation, call Mr. Spayde (641-3200) or drop it off at the school.

HOUSE FOR SALE

Located in the Middle School/Wick Elementary area (9280 Ozga Road), this 3-bedroom/2-bath home has a fireplace and finished basement as well as an attached 2-car garage. \$169,000. Call 734-753-5301.

U of M Financial Aid Director Fowler Urges Early Preparation

Pamela W. Fowler, the Director of Financial Aid at the University of Michigan, urges college-bound students and their parents to file their financial-aid applications right away.

Fowler – who addressed a crowd of 125 local residents at a recent financial-aid workshop held in the Romulus High School auditorium – explained that the \$68 billion available from the federal government this year in the form of grants and loans is distributed on a first-come/first-served basis. Because the money goes quickly, students and parents should fill out and file the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) form as soon as possible. They should also be prompt about getting in touch with the financial aid director at their chosen college or university.

Among the tips that Fowler shared with her audience: Filing the electronic FAFSA form permits a reply in just ten days, while handwritten forms take four to five weeks to process. Again, she stressed that time is essential in this process because each college/university has only an allocated amount of money to work with, and the first-come/first-served formula applies additionally to each school.

.When a student receives the reply to the FAFSA form, he/she will find that it contains important information, including the amount of money that the student's family is expected to contribute toward his/her education that year, as well as the amount that is available to him/her in grants (money that does not have to be repaid) and loans. These include Pell Grants, Perkins Loans (available at a 5% interest rate), and Stafford Loans (available at 8% interest).

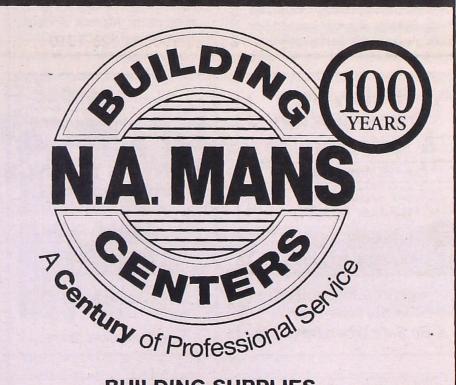
The workshop also identified additional sources of funding, such as need/merit-based scholarships, work/study programs (both governmental and institutional), and institutional and private loans.

Fowler said that there is a good rule of thumb, based on research studies, to help students determine how much they can afford to borrow for their education. It indicates that the average student can handle up to about \$20,000 in loans, which would require monthly payments of \$275 to \$300 per month over a 10-year payback period.

Fowler's presentation concluded with a comparison of the costs involved in attending two-year community colleges, four-year state universities, and four-year private schools.

Parents who would like to learn more about obtaining financial aid for their child should contact Romulus High School's Guidance Department staff members: John Domas (734-532-1025), Jim Orme (532-1023), or Mae Jackson (532-1022). □

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Community Calendar

- Sweet Adelines International Seeks Singers The County Connection Chorus an a capella show chorus based in Ypsilanti is looking for women interested in singing and learning four-part harmony. The chorus draws membership from 13 cities in 5 Michigan counties and includes women of all ages and occupations, including doctors, accountants, and stay-at-home moms. On Tuesday, January 29, at 6:45 p.m., the chorus will host a guest night and rehearsal at the UAW Local 898 Hall (located at 8975 Textile Road, Ypsilanti). All interested ladies are welcome to attend. For more information, call 734-480-8843 or e-mail chorus @sweetadelines.org.
- Mostaccioli Dinner/Open House at St. Aloysius Catholic School St. Aloysius Catholic School (grades kindergarten through eight) invites the families of prospective students for the 2002–2003 school year to attend a Mostaccioli Dinner/Open House program at the school (located at 37200 Neville) on Thursday, January 31. Dinner (\$5 for adults; \$4.50 for senior citizens; \$3 for children two and up; children under two free) will be from 4 to 6 p.m.; with the open house following from 6 to 7 p.m. For more information, call 734-941-3340.
- Chamber Hosts GalaWineTasting/Dinner/Silent Auction The Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce will host a gala wine tasting/dinner/silent auction on Friday, February 8, at the Romulus Marriott Hotel (located at 30557 Flynn Drive). The deluxe four-course dinner will feature several winetasting occasions as well as time to view and make bids on the silent auction's various items, including trips, dinners, tickets for entertainment and sporting events, and specialty gifts. The evening will begin with an open bar (6:15 p.m.), followed by dinner at 7:30 p.m., with wine-tasting sessions between each course. (A wine expert will explain the types of wine that go with the different dinner courses.) Finally, participants will have one last opportunity to bid on auction items before the results are announced. A donation of \$30 per person is requested for this fun-filled evening. Reservations should be made with Barbara Ann Snyder, the Chamber's executive secretary, no later than Monday, January 28. For more information, contact Snyder at 734-326-4290.
- Free Valentine Craft Class Children in grades K–6 are invited to take part
 in a Valentine craft class being offered at the Romulus Public Library (11121
 South Wayne Road, next to City Hall) at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, February
 10. Although there is no charge to participate, advance registration is
 required. Call 734-942-7589.
- Preschool Storytime: "Nursery Rhyme Time" Children ages three to five who are ready for independent listening, but are not yet in kindergarten, are invited to take part in the winter/spring storytime program at the Romulus Public Library (11121 South Wayne Road, next to City Hall). The program will feature stories, games, and crafts related to its "Nursery Rhyme Time" theme. Parents can choose between the Tuesday evening (7 p.m.) session, which will begin February 13 and continue through March 20, or the Thursday morning (10:30 a.m.) session, which will begin February 15 and continue through March 22. Although the program is free, space is limited, so early registration is recommended. Call 734-942-7589.
- "African American Experience" Book Discussion Group The African American Experience Book Discussion Group meets at 6:30 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month (next meeting: February 20) at the Romulus Public Library (11121 Wayne Road, next to City Hall). New members are welcome. For more information about the club or its reading list, call Alfaye Woods or Diane Hazen at the Library (734-942-7589) during regular business hours (Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, 12 to 5 p.m.).
- Youtheatre Offers Laura Ingalls Wilder: Growing Up on the Prairie Youtheatre's Movin' Up Club (for children age seven and over) will present Growing Up on the Prairie on Saturday, March 16 (11 a.m. and 2 p.m.), and Sunday, March 17 (2 p.m.), at the Millennium Centre (15600 J.L. Hudson Dr., Southfield). Individual tickets are \$8 when purchased in advance; \$10 at the door. Group rates, birthday parties, season tickets, and drama workshops are available. For more information, call 248-557-PLAY (7529).

To place information in our next issue's Community Calendar, mail it to "the little paper" at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174–0038; FAX it to us at 941-4874; or call 941-1907 or 941-3113

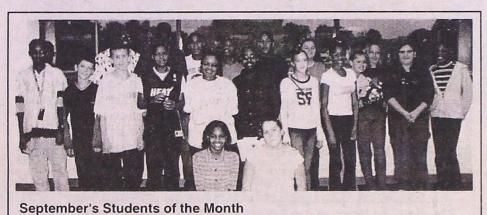
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Family Get-togethers Focus on Fun



Site Coordinator Stephanie Adkins creates crafts with students at one of the 21st Century Learning Center's monthly "Family Reading Night" programs. The get-togethers also include dinner and, of course, reading.

RMS "Students of the Month"



Congratulations to these Romulus Middle School students who were recognized as "Students of the Month" for excellence in behavior and academics. September

Maurice Anderson, Brent Blackwelder, Tondra Bland, Amanda Braden, Akeem Burkes, Ronald Carter, Elvis Celske, Sammantha Chapman, Carmen Coleman DreQuan Curry, Dekarele Eldridge, Willie Griggs, Bridgette Hawes, Jeannie Hayes, Steven Krasinski, Rebecca Labo, Jennifer McKinney, Alice Mattson, Jessica Mills, Michelle Nelson, Anisa Rakic, Kenneth Richardson, Thomas Robbins, Jetaun Robinson, Anne Ross, Devin Searcy, Mary Stewart, Siera

Stewart, Anthony Tucker, Ashlee Wells, and Patricia Williams.

October

Lauren Belle, Jarran Booker, Brad Bowman, Melissa Brewington, Ayibatari Burutolu, Kenny Charles, Jennifer Dick, Jessica Dick, Katherine Drayton, Shamkia Eldridge, Carl Gillespie, Keith Gregory, Eric Holmes, Amanda Ingle, Jeanna Jendritz, Shannon Kowalski, Joseph Lewis, Marco Little, Justin Maupin, Krystle McKay, Jonathan McLachlan, Chrishawnna Meeks, Alisa Nelson, Cherica Peoples, Darius Price, Joshua Rivera, Brian Rodger, Noeh Sanchez, Amna Sheikh, Jeremy Trevorrow, Mariay Watt, and Brian Wilson.



October's Students of the Month

ROMULUS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

36540 Grant Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174

REGULAR MEETING, DECEMBER 10, 2001

The Regular Meeting of the Romulus Board of Education held on Monday, December 10, 2001, was called to order by President Debbie Dick at 6:30 p.m.

Roll call showed all members present. All administrators were present. Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Dick.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

12/01/4 Moved by Woods supported by McCraight to approve the Agenda as presented. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

Moved by McCraight supported by Buckley that the Board approve the 12/01/5 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 26, 2001, as presented. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0.

12/01/6 Moved by McCraight supported by Frayer that the Board approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of November 28, 2001, as presented. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Personnel Actions

Mr. Edward Clark, Director of Human Resources, offered the following personnel

RESIGNATION: Linda Stock, First-grade Teacher, Merriman Elementary School,

12/01/7 Moved by McCraight supported by Buckley that the Board of Education accept the resignation of personnel as presented by Mr. Edward Clark, Director of Human Resources. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

RESIGNATION - FYI: Cathy Coleman, Secretary, Romulus Elementary School, Effective November 16, 2001

TERMINATION - FYI: Jody Stockdale, Secretary, Romulus Middle School, Effective November 16, 2001

Bills for Payment

12/01/8 Moved by McCraight supported by Buckley to approve the Bills for Payment as presented by Mr. William Routhier, Director of Business and Operations. Ayes: 6. Navs: 0. Motion carried.

Curriculum Presentation

Doug Hoffman, Sharon Silveri, Lynn Behta, Rebecca Merithew, and students appeared before the Board of Education and made a presentation relative to the math

Approval of HIV Curriculum (6th, 8th, HS) and Reproductive Health Changes

Moved by Woods supported by Lenossi that the Board of Education approve the HIV Curriculum for Kindergarten through 8th Grade and Reproductive Health Changes as recommended by Thomas Dolan, Director of Curriculum, pending public hearing, Ayes: 6, Nays: 0, Motion carried.

Construction Report

Kevin Waldman, Barton Malow, appeared before the Board of Education with an update of construction throughout the district.

Communications and Expressions from the Public

Pat Sprinkle appeared before the Board of Education with regard to personnel matters and security policies being updated.

Science Equipment - All Elementaries

12/01/10 Moved by McCraight supported by Buckley to approve E-Quip's proposal for loose furniture for Cory, Merriman, Barth, and Wick at a cost of \$29,416.00 and for tables at the Alternative School at a cost of \$4,030.00. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Items of Interest from the Superintendent

Mr. Joel R. Carr, Superintendent, shared the following items of interest with members of the Board: 1) Playground Surfacing Quotes; 2) Danka - Copier, Merriman; 3) Pitney Bowes Mailing System; 4) Merriman + Spruce Up; 5) Playground Equipment; 6) Communication-NCA; 7) Communication-Cooke School; 8) Compass Learning Newsletter; 9) Communication - REA; 10) Romulus High School Newsletter; 11) Communication - Don Foley; 12) Thank You - Jack Bowsher; 13) Romulus Middle School Newsletter; 14) Halecreek Elementary Newsletter; 15) Cory Elementary Newsletter; 16) Thank You – Suzanne Snyder; 17) The Merriman Star Newsletter; and 18) Romulus High School Parent Newsletter

Questions and/or Concerns of Board Members

There were no questions and/or concerns of Board members.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

12/01/11 Moved by Buckley supported by Woods that the Board of Education convene in Executive Session. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The Board convened in Executive Session at 7:49 p.m. and reconvened in Regular Session at 9:19 p.m.

12/01/12 Moved by McCraight supported by Lenossi that Kenneth Berlinn be appointed to serve in vacancy on Board of Education through June, 2002. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried

ADJOURNMENT:

12/01/13 Moved by McCraight supported by Frayer that the meeting be adjourned. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Betty Lenossi, Secretary Romulus Board of Education

RMS Girls' Basketball Team Is 10-0



Under the leadership of Coach Kelly Kubany (back, left), Romulus Middle School's girls' basketball team finished the season undefeated for the first time in school history. The team included (from left): front row -Brandi McCloud, Tatiana Gray, Alysa Long, and Erika Wasson; middle row - Jessica Workman, Ashley Lately, Tiffany Gray, Antoinice Hearst, and Adrian Pitts; back row - Briana Bray, Yetty Emanuel, Aurielle McCauley, Nicole Carroll, and Shannon Kowalski.

"Students of the Month" Recognized

Atotal of 93 Romulus High School students (48 in November; 45 in December) have been recognized as "Students of the Month" for excellence in behavior and academics. Those who attended a brief ceremony in their honor received a certificate of achievement and, thanks to local sponsors, a \$50 U.S. savings bond.

Students of the Month - November

Zakiyyah Akhtab, Darnell Anderson, Kimberly Atkins, Joshua Barnes, Jazmine Bennett, Nicole Bills, David Brown, Gerald Cantrell, Xavier Clemons, Ronald Coleman, Jenny Cornelius, Sophia Couch, Kara Coughlin, Christopher Carlson, Lauryn Farkas, Adam Gibbons, Anthon Glaze, Sarah Gray, Jeffrey Hoffman, Kenneth Howard, Anita Johnson, Cristina Jones, Lekesia Kendrick, Brittni Lansbury, Sarah Lindroth, Kevin Longre, Jasmine Mark, Latosha Maycock, Amanda Michniak, Steven Moore, Jesse Morris, Maida Mulaosmanovic, Anthony Patierno, Daniel Patterson, Robert Rice, Jessica Rodriquez, Ashley Rodgers, Philip Roscoe, Michael Sandusky, Beatrice Springer, Nichole Starnes, Ashley Stockdale, Amy Thompson, Ervin Vincent, Jonathon Wilkerson, Derhonda Williams, Jennifer Williams, and Depaul Wood.

Students of the Month - December

Shannon Allen, Jason Andrews. Nicole Bills, Scott Blackburn, Ryan Boyd, Ronnie Brown, Kimberly Buckley, Taritonye Burutolu, Kyleen Calloway, Ronald Coleman, Jerry Collie, Jeffrey Conradson, Beonka Dreher,

Nicholas Druyor, Antonia Evans, Christina Foster, Anitra Glimps, Terry Harper, Danielle Hendricks, Brandon Hicks, Ileena Hill, Bethany Hotchkiss, Jeremiah Hudson, Amber Keely, Jessica Kubicki, Geana Lewis, Kevin Longre, Andrea Marosan, Juanita Miller, Erica Necker, Alanae Odom, Michael Patrias, Leslie Perez, Tyrone Pickens, Kristina Rafalski, Ashley Rodgers, Briana Smith, Robert Smith, Ryan Tackett, Laura Tanner, Michael Thompson, Samantha Vaughn, Jurbar Williams, Angel White, and Sammie Young.

Bond Sponsors

C&C Trailer Service; Ms. Linda Choate, Clerk, City of Romulus; Cottage Inn Pizza; Dale Kennedy & Sons; Downriver Pest Control; Elkins Machine & Tool; Gandol; Graduate Services; Header Products; Dr. Rhonda Hennessy, DDS; Highway Maintenance; Kiwanis Club of Michigan; Landing Strip Lounge; Lasting Images, Inc.; Art and Eva McDonald; Oakwood Healthcare System (Romulus Adolescent Health Center); Precision Hardware, Inc.; Romulus Community Schools staff members (Judith Thompson-Barthwell, Marjorie Fraley, Michael Hanson, Henry James, Teresa Kamensky, Lance Knudson, Don Kobane, Jesse Meriweather, and the district's central office administrators); Romulus Flowers & Gifts; Romulus Rotary Club; Dr. Kundan Sata, DDS, and Dr. Milan Sata, DDS; Trans-Overseas Corporation; and United Brass Manufacturers.

Recreation News

ROMULUS PUBLIC LIBRARY 11121 Wayne Road

Romulus, MI 48174

l (734) 942-7589

Thanks to Herbert Buckley, Director, City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation, and Deborah Justice, Recreation Coordinator, for supplying information for the "Recreation News" column

Unless otherwise noted, registration for the following programs should be made at the Romulus Recreation Center (36515 Bibbins) during its regular hours (weekdays, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.). For more information, stop in at the Center or call 734-942-6852.

Valentine Dance

The Romulus Recreation Department will present its annual Mother-Son Valentine Dance at Romulus Middle School on Wednesday, February 13, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. A cost of \$7 per couple (plus \$2 for each additional son; cash only) includes music, refreshments, a flower for Mom, and a photo.

Since space is limited, early registration is strongly urged. No tickets will be sold after 5 p.m. on Monday, February 11, and none will be available at the door.

Dance Classes

The next 8-week session of dance classes will begin the week of January 27 according to the following schedule:

- preschool tap (ages 3-5): Mondays, 5-5:30 p.m., Rec Center
- preschool jazz (ages 3-5): Mondays, 5:30-6 p.m., Rec Center
- jazz (ages 6-12): Mondays, 6-6:45 p.m., Rec Center
- jazz (ages 13 and up): Mondays, 8-8:45 p.m., Rec Center
- preschool ballet (ages 3-5): Thursdays, 5-5:30 p.m. or 5:30-6 p.m., Romulus High School
- ballet (ages 6-12): Thursdays, 6-6:45 p.m., Romulus High School
- dance club: Mondays, 6:45-8 p.m., Rec Center; Thursdays, 6:45-7:30 p.m., Romulus High School

- sololessons: Thursdays, 7:30-8 p.m., Romulus High School
- Class costs are as follows: one 30-minute class: \$30
- two 30-minute classes: \$50
- three 30-minute classes: \$70
- one 45-minute class: \$45
- two 45-minute classes: \$80
- three 45-minute classes: \$115
- dance club: \$60
- solo lessons: \$50

A spring recital will be held on Wednesday, May 1; a dress rehearsal is planned for Monday, April 29. Only students completing three sessions of classes will be eligible to participate in the recital.

Clogging

The next 10-week clogging program will begin on February 18 at Cory Elementary School. The beginning class will meet Mondays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.; the advanced class will be held Mondays from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Cost is \$20 per person.

Cheer America

The next session of Cheer America, for ages 4 to 15, will begin February 20 and continue each Wednesday from 5 to 6 p.m. for 14 weeks.

Cost is \$5 per class, plus a \$4 semester fee to be paid at registration (held February 20 from 5 to 6 p.m.; class will immediately follow).

Karate

The next karate program - open to ages seven to adult - will begin on February 20. The Monday/Wednesday classes will be held in the wrestling room at Romulus High School for both beginning (6:30 to 7:30 p.m.) and advanced (7:30 to 8:30 p.m.) students.

Cost for the 10-week program is \$35 per person, \$65 for two family members, or \$90 for three or more family members.



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Sassy Seniors

By Mary E. Clark

Special thanks to Linda Norman, Senior Citizens Program Coordinator for the City of Romulus, and Melissa Morton, Manager of the Romulus Tower, for contributing information to this issue's "Sassy Seniors" column. (For more information about events at the Romulus Senior Center, located at 36515 Bibbins downtown, please call 734-942-6852.)

Tower Residents Help Goodfellows

"Wow! What a collection!" said an enthusiastic Melissa Morton, expressing her pride in the Romulus Tower residents' efforts to gather and donate items such as food, toys, and hats/mittens/scarves for the local Goodfellows organization during the holiday season. (See the photograph at right.)

Morton thanked Romulus Fire Chief David Allison and his assistant, Jill Martin, for helping the residents coordinate their Goodfellows efforts, which were more successful than ever before.

Holiday Luncheon at the Tower

Morton also expressed her thanks to Maria Lambert, Frank's Party Store, the Landing Strip Lounge, and Enaid's Hair Salon for their generous donations to the Tower's holiday luncheon last month. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the barbecued ribs — cooked up by dedicated staff members Randy Dumas and Cindy Semchuck — that were the main dish for the event! (See the photograph at right.)

Finally, Morton wished to acknowledge the attendance of a number of special guests, including State Representative Raymond Basham, Mayor Alan Lambert, Fire Chief Allison, Romulus Police Officer Tom Ellis, and Romulus Senior Center Programs Coordinator Linda Norman (who makes wonderful beans!).

Free Tax Preparation

Beginning February 6 and continuing through April 10, volunteers from the American Association of Retired Persons will be available (by appointment only) at the Romulus Senior Center to assist low- and moderate-income Romulus seniors with the preparation of their Federal and State 1040 forms, as well as those for homestead property taxes, home-heating credits, and prescription credits.

A list of materials which must be brought to the appointment includes:

- · W-2 forms,
- Unemployment Compensation statements,
- SSA-1099 interest/dividend statements,

- 1099R pensions/annuity statements,
- · statements indicating income tax paid
- · child-care information, and
- receipts and/or canceled checks (if itemizing deductions).

Special Trips

Seniors interested in more information about these or other special trips that have been planned by the Romulus Senior Center should call Linda Norman at 734-942-6852.

- Soaring Eagle Casino (February 12; \$18);
- Genitti's Hole-in-the-Wall (February 14; \$49);
- Geritol Follies
 (February 28; \$70); and
- Bay Mills
 (April 1–2; \$89).

Computer Classes

Openings are still available in two upcoming sessions of computer classes for senior citizens. To learn more, call or stop in at the Romulus Senior Center.

Crime Watch/Community Policing

Next month's Crime Watch/Community Policing meeting will be held at Romulus Tower apartments (36500 Bibbins, across the street from the Senior Center) on Wednesday, February 27, at 11 a.m. New faces are always welcome.

Weekly Programs

Besides the many special activities offered at the Romulus Senior Center, a number of regularly scheduled free or low-cost programs are also open to local senior citizens. They include:

- · ceramics (Mondays, 1 and 6 p.m.),
- Club #1 (Tuesdays, 11 a.m.),
- bunco (Tuesdays, 1 p.m.),
- line-dance classes (Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m.),
- bingo (Wednesdays, 1 p.m.),
- "fun night" (Wednesdays, 5 p.m.),
- · pinochle (Thursdays, 1 p.m.), and
- quilting (Thursdays, 7 p.m.).

Some Handy Phone Numbers

Don't know who to call for help? Stop in at the Romulus Senior Center, where you can pick up a "Helping Services" list chock full of telephone numbers for AARP, Legal Aid, adult day care, transportation services, and much more.

Don't have time to stop by? Call and ask to be put on the Center's mailing list for the monthly "Communicator" newsletter. It's absolutely free, and it frequently contains the "Helping Services" list, plus information about a variety of local programs, too.

Christmas Cards Accepted

The Romulus Senior Center is once again collecting used Christmas cards. Just drop them off at the Center.

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Recreation/Senior Holiday Wrap-up



The Romulus Recreation Department's annual holiday craft class featured the creation of gingerbread houses.



The Romulus Tower holiday luncheon featured barbecued ribs.



Romulus Tower seniors, working with the Goodfellows, gave more than ever before last holiday season. Their donations included food, toys, and lots of hats, mittens, and scarves (above).

Brida's Nama

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT FORM

If you are a resident of Romulus, *The Romulus News* will be happy to print an announcement of your new addition (child or grandchild). If possible, please enclose a photograph of your new arrival. There is no charge. Just fill out the following information and mail to:

THE ROMULUS NEWS

P.O. Box 74038 Romulus, MI 48174-0038

Baby's Name		
Birthdate	Time	
Weight		
Birthplace	10 7 Miles	
Parents		
Address		
City	_ State	Zip
Siblings		
Maternal Grandparents		
Address		
City	_ State	Zip
Paternal Grandparents		
Address		
City	_ State	Zip
Name and phone number of person to contact (in case of questions):		

ENGAGEMENT/WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT FORM

Attach any additional information concerning the birth to this form.

If you, or your parents, are residents of Romulus, *The Romulus News* will be happy to print an announcement of your engagement or wedding. If possible, please enclose a photograph. There is no charge. Just fill out the following information and mail to:

THE ROMULUS NEWS

P.O. Box 74038 Romulus, MI 48174-0038

Diluc 3 Hairie		
City	State	
Groom's Name		
City	State	
Bride's Parents		
City	State	
Groom's Parents		
City	State	
Bridesmaids		
Groomsmen		
Date of Engagement		
Date of Wedding		
Place		
City	State	
Reception		
City	State	
Name and phone number of person to contact (in case of questions):		

Attach any additional information concerning the wedding or engagement to this form.

The Stork Arrived

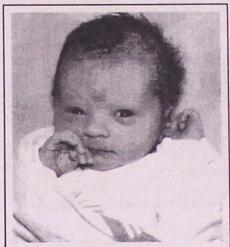
Paul Webster Banks, Jr.

Paul and Jamie Banks of Romulus, Michigan, are proud to announce the birth of their new son, Paul Webster Banks, Jr.

Paul was born in Oakwood Annapolis Hospital (Wayne, MI) at 6:21 a.m. on Friday, December 7, 2001, weighing in at 6 pounds, 12 ounces, and measuring 20¹/₄ inches in length.

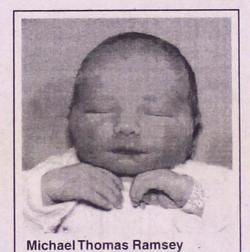
Especially excited about the new arrival was his big sister, Jordyn Faye Banks.

Daniel and Linda Banks (Romulus) are Paul's paternal grandparents; his maternal grandparents are Jim Kniceley (Belleville, MI) and Karen Leach (National City, MI).



Paul Webster Banks, Jr.

Michael Thomas Ramsey



Proudly announcing the birth of their new son, Michael Thomas Ramsey, are Mike and Jessie Ramsey of Romulus, Michigan.

Michael was born in Oakwood Hospital (Dearborn, MI) at 5:53 p.m. on Monday, November 5, 2001, weighing in at 9 pounds, 9 ounces, and measuring 221/2 inches in length.

Among those giving the new arrival a warm welcome into the family were his paternal grandparents, Tom Ramsey (Grosse IIe, MI) and Kay Ramsey (Trenton, MI), and his maternal grandparents, Ken Stokley (Edgewood, NM) and Sue Stokley (Romulus).

Army National Guard Visits Halecreek



After kindergartners at Halecreek Elementary sent holiday cards to servicemen as part of a community service project, they received a visit from three recipients – Sergeant Dunn, First Sergeant Nelson, and Specialist Dombrowski of the Army National Guard – who have been helping out with security at Metro Airport. The gentlemen thanked the children for their thoughtfulness and talked about their job of keeping airport visitors safe. The students want to thank Kathy Hurst, Service Learning Coordinator, for helping them get their cards to those who are serving in the military.

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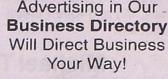
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